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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/759,434	01/12/2001	Dipak Shah	PETAP001	9950
22434	7590	02/08/2005	EXAMINER	
BEYER WEAVER & THOMAS LLP			NGUYEN, BRIAN D	
P.O. BOX 70250				
OAKLAND, CA 94612-0250			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2661	

DATE MAILED: 02/08/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/759,434	SHAH ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	Brian D Nguyen	2661

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on the amendment filed on 9/20/04.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 19-34 and 49 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-31 and 49 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) 32-34 is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 27 April 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The indicated allowability of claims 19-31 and 49 are withdrawn in view of the newly discovered reference(s) to Roy et al (6,646,983). Rejections based on the newly cited reference(s) follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

3. Claims 19-31 and 49 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Raza (6,603,771) in view of Chao et al (5,790,539) and Roy et al (6,646,983).

Regarding claims 19-22, 25 and 49, Raza discloses a method for operating switching apparatus having multiple virtual queues and multiple switch chips (see figures 2 and 3), the method comprising receiving an incoming packet, storing the packet in the virtual queues, determining when to pass the packet through the switch, and switch the packet through the switch chips (see figures 2 & 3 and col. 2, lines 38-67). Raza does not specifically disclose dividing the packet into fixed length blocks and concurrently transferring the blocks to different ones of the switch chips. However, these features are well known in the art. Roy discloses dividing the packet into fixed length cells (see segmenting the packet in col. 12, lines 37-40) and Chao discloses the blocks are concurrently transferring to different ones of the switch chips (see figures 3 and 4; col. 3, lines 50-58; and col. 12, lines 59-67). Therefore, it would have been

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obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to divide and transfer the packets as taught by Roy and Chao in the system of Raza in order to accommodate a higher transmission rate.

Regarding claims 23-24 and 26-29, Raza does not disclose sending a request for transferring and receive a grant for transferring. However, Roy teaches these features (see col. 4, lines 1-27). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the transferring technique of requesting and granting as taught by Roy in the system of Raza so that data packets can be orderly transfer through the switch.

Regarding claims 30 and 31, Raza does not disclose block types. However, Roy teaches this feature (see col. 7, lines 30-32; col. 11, lines 4-8; col. 16, lines 48-50). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the multiple block types (between traffic type and control type or between different traffic types such voice and data) as taught by Roy in the system of Raza in order to distinguish one type from the others.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 32-34 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian D Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-3084.

The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-6:00 Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chau Nguyen can be reached on (571) 272-3126. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



2/3/05

BRIAN NGUYEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER